



Dobcroft Newsletter

16th January 2026



[Click here for school dinners](#)

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Whole school news [Y2 news](#) [Y1 news](#) [Foundation Stage 2 News](#) [Ladybirds News](#)

ACTION REQUIRED – From Monday, all communication is through the reach more app

You have received an email before Christmas to show you how to download the app.



Please make sure you've downloaded our school app.

This will be the only place for homework, parent consultations, snow news, emails and news updates. If the app isn't installed, you may miss important information — and we don't want you to miss out!

Family Intervention Service (FIS) and Sheffield Parent Hub

We wanted to signpost parents to the offer for parents and carers from the Family Intervention Service (FIS) and Sheffield Parent Hub. The Sheffield Parent Hub offers a range of courses that parents and carers can attend to support them with any of the many challenges parenting can present. Please follow the link to the [Sheffield Directory](#) to find information about some of the upcoming courses this term.

The Family Intervention Service (FIS) also offer advice sessions to families to provide support to address concerns early, reducing risks and preventing issues from escalating. These sessions involve collaboration between the school, the Family Intervention Service (FIS), and the family to offer practical advice and signposting. Sessions are designed to be safe, supportive, and focused on what's working well, current worries, and next steps. Some of the issues that may be covered in an advice session are education, family relationships, mental and physical health. For more information about advice sessions, get in touch with our SENCO Kat Holmes on holmesk@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk.

New DNIS School Lottery

We're excited to share that our new weekly school lottery is launching soon!

This is a great opportunity to be in with a chance of winning cash prizes while also helping to raise valuable funds for our school. The first draw will take place on **Saturday 14th February**.

[Click here to buy tickets](#)



Pre-loved uniform sale – Friday 23rd Jan, after school

FODS will be holding a pre-loved uniform sale next week. Most items are just £1. It's a great way to save money, reduce waste and support a more sustainable school community.

Date: Friday 23rd January

Time: 3.30pm

Where: bottom playground (hub if it's raining)

[Click here for term dates 25–26](#)

Jan 2026

20th
Tennis Taster Sessions

20th
PINS parent meeting

21st
Share a Story
3.10pm–3.30pm
FS1 – 9am and 3.10pm

28th
FS2 Fairy Tale dress up day

28th
FS1 Fairy Tale dress up day

Feb 2026

2nd
Chinese Dance Workshop

4th
Whole School Concert
performance of Blown Away

5th
Number Day

Drop off / Pick up times

We are respectfully asking for children to be dropped off and picked up at the appropriate time. Please note that if your child is dropped on in a morning after the doors have been closed, then your child will be marked as late.

School Day	
FS2: • 8.45am –doors open (8.55 am – doors close) • 3.25pm – pick up time	KSt: • 8.50am –doors open (9.00 am – doors close) • 3.30pm – pick up time

Doors open at 9.00am for Ladybirds

[Click here for an overview of key information for parents](#)

School Meal Survey – Have your say!

Please complete the survey below (takes less than one minute)

As part of our commitment to sustainability, we recently calculated our school's carbon footprint. The results showed that 62% of our emissions come from food, largely because meat is served on four out of five school days. Several parents have already suggested increasing the number of meat-free days, and we are considering options such as introducing more plant-based meals. Before making any decisions, we would like to hear your views. As an Eco School, we believe this could be an important step towards becoming a more sustainable community, and your feedback is vital in shaping our approach.

[Click here to complete survey](#)

Thanks for your support in the snow disruptions

Thank you to everyone for your support last week when the school was disrupted by snow. It is a tricky balancing act to ensure everyone can arrive safely whilst minimising disruption. We understand the impact a later opening time has on our families and we are grateful to everyone for your cooperation.

Right of the half term

Article 29

I have the right to become the best
I can be.



We are proud to be a Gold accredited Rights Respecting School. At DNIS we are ambassadors for the rights of others and are passionate about developing rights respecting citizens. With this in mind we would like to share a 'Right of the half term' with you as part of our valuable school



community.

FODS News

SAVE THE DATE – FODS Quiz Night

FODS are excited to announce our first quiz night of the year in support of Dobcroft Infant and Junior School.



📅 Friday 30th January 2026

📍 Dobcroft Infant School

🕒 Quiz starts at 8.00pm (doors open 7.30pm)

The quiz will be in the style of the Big Fat Quiz of the Year and promises to be a fun, relaxed night out and a great way to kick off fundraising for 2026.

Full details and the booking link is can be found [here](#), using the QR code, and will be shared via class WhatsApp groups over the weekend, so please keep an eye out.

We hope you can join us!

Headteacher update

We wanted to let you know that the job advert for the Headteacher role, starting in September 2026, has now been published. The recruitment process will take a little time, but we will keep you updated and will share the outcome as soon as the appointment has been made.

Try Diving Taster Scheme for Sheffield Primary Schools

Ponds Forge International Sports Centre is set to host the **2026 Aquatics GB Diving International**! The three-day competition will take place from 30th January to 1st February

10th

Safer Internet
Day

10th

Martial Arts Taster
Sessions

11th

Y1 Art Exhibition

9.15–9.45: Foxes

1.45–2.15: Hedgehogs

2.45–3.15: Squirrels

13th

Dress Down Day
(last day of term)

2026, featuring Britain's leading divers competing against top international talent. Athletes will showcase their skills in the 3 metre springboard and 10 metre platform individual and synchro medal events.

The Everyone Active Diving Programme at Ponds Forge is the proud home to TEN divers who will take to the boards to represent Great Britain at this exciting event and in partnership with Aquatics GB, we are delighted to deliver our Team GB inspired Try Diving Taster Programme between January and March 2026. This exciting opportunity provides the opportunity for pupils to take to the boards and experience the exhilarating Olympic sport of springboard and platform diving for themselves.

i FREE 30 minute Try Diving Taster Sessions with our experienced coaches for participants age 6–15 years of age

📍 Ponds Forge International Sports Centre

📅 Weekly sessions on Tuesdays 17:00pm, Wednesdays 17.30pm and Fridays throughout January – March

⚠️ Participants must be able to swim 25 metres confidently swim in deep water without goggles

📞 BOOK NOW via the Everyone Active App, calling 0114 2233800 or emailing Mike Gill at michaelgill@everyoneactive.com

WATCH THE ACTION LIVE!

Tickets for Aquatics GB Diving International 2026 are available [HERE](#) from £7.00. We are pleased to offer a 15% discount for pupils, and their families to use for other competition days. **Please share and use the code SCHOOL15 at checkout.**

Y2 Art – bring in a t-shirt

We are using acrylic paint in week 4 (w/c 26/01/26). Please can you send your child in with an old t-shirt by Friday 23th January to protect their clothing. Acrylic paint can stain clothes so we'd like to protect your child's uniform!

FS2 Parent Transition Questionnaire

We value your feedback about the transition process for our FS2 children, both positive and any areas we can improve. Your comments form part of our school improvement cycle and we will inform you of any changes once we have analysed your feedback.

Please [click here](#) to complete the survey.

Courtside Tennis Taster

Next Tuesday Year 1 will have the opportunity to take part in a morning of Tennis Taster sessions with Courtside. Courtside is a community interest company who run junior tennis sessions in Millhouses Park every Saturday morning. The sessions are pay-as-you-go, with no membership required and no sign-up fee. The sessions are delivered by kind and welcoming tennis coaches, designed for children who are new to tennis. If you're interested in booking a session, you can visit <https://tennis-sheffield.com/book/coaching/12414?>. For more information about Courtside, you can visit their website: <https://courtside.uk/sheffield>

EYFS Fairytale Dress up Day

As part of our learning about Heroes and Villains. Children in Ladybirds, Otters, Mice, and Badgers are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite fairytale heroes or villains on Wednesday 28th January. We will be talking about what makes them a hero or a villain and also having a heroes and villains parade in the hall together to show off our costumes. Please note – we would prefer you not to send toy weapons with the children on this day as part of their costumes. Thanks in advance!

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Second hand uniform

As part of our drive to be an environmentally aware school our Eco Team sell good quality, second hand uniform at school events. You can now also contact Gemma Bottery (a parent member of our Eco Team) on to request specific items. Gemma will monitor this email on a weekly basis, so if you have suddenly realised that you need more school jumpers, please get in touch with her.

You can also buy school logo badges from the office which can be sewn onto garments of the appropriate school colours at a cost of £4.00.

Attendance

Attendance target 2024–25: **97.5%**. Currently school is at **96.9%**. Remember reduced % means 'Learning time lost'! A reminder that the chief medical officer encourages children to attend school if they have a cold, however if they have sickness, or diarrhoea, they need to remain absent for 48 hours after the last time this occurs. If your child has a temperature, they need to remain off school. Attendance as often as possible is important for your child.

Punctuality: It is important that you aim to be in school for the start time. This is 8.55am in Foundation Stage and 9am in Y1 and Y2. This is the time your child needs to be on the carpet, things put away ready for register and to learn, not when you are arriving at the entrance. Arriving late is disruptive to both your own child and the rest of the class. It is also likely your child will have missed some key learning for the day. This week **0.58%** of children were marked as late.

Ask me about...

Each week your class teacher will update this area with information about what your child has been learning during the week so that you can ask them questions about it.

Ladybirds

The Ladybirds have had a great week exploring our Traditional Tales topic. We have been retelling our story with music and actions as well as recreating the story in our role play area. We have been using our mathematical language to compare sizes and ordering objects by size.

We have continued our new P.E lessons in the hall this week. We had a great time being pirates, learning about moving around the space in different ways. We need to take off our shoes and socks for these lessons so it would be really helpful for the children to continue to practice this at home whenever they can.

Laura Hardwick – hardwickl@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Foundation Stage Two (Otters, Mice and Badgers)

We have really enjoyed taking part in a Rugger Eds taster session this week. The children learnt how to attach their own tag belt and have taken part in different team games. The children were really pleased to take home a certificate.

The children have also been reflecting on our visit to the pantomime and have been designing and making their own character from the story Snow White. We used the TASC wheel in our classroom to plan out our design. We then used paint and a variety of mixed media to implement our designs. The children have evaluated their finished work

In maths, we have been learning to name different 3d shapes. We have spotted lots of 3d shapes in our classroom and around school.

We are hoping to enhance our construction areas in the next few weeks. If any families have any toy construction toys that are no longer used we would love to give them a new home.

We are also keen to restock our junk modelling areas with small boxes. You can pass these over to staff on the door.

Beth Cooke – cookeb@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Shama Chaudhry – chaudhrys@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Vikki Burgan – burganv@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Matthew Donaldson – donaldsonm@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Helen Morris – morrish@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Y1 (Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Foxes)

Welcome back and happy new year everyone. We hope you had a lovely relaxing break.

Maths – number lines and estimating numbers to 20.

English – We have been learning to recognise and generate verbs.

History – We have been ordering the events of the Titanic into chronological order.

Science – We have been labelling the parts of a plant and planting a radish seed so we can observe it changing over time.

PHE – We have been looking at how families can change over time.

Miss Tinker – tinkerc@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Mr Jones – jonesd@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Miss Coldron – coldronp@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Y2 (Woodpeckers, Kingfishers and Eagles)

Welcome back everyone! We hope you all had a relaxing winter break and are glad to be back at school.

Maths – we have continued our topic on money. We have looked at making a pound and counting change.

English – we have sequenced our book, The 3 Little Narwhals, and compared it to other fairytales.

Science – we looked at properties of fabric.

Art – we learnt about mixing colours and using different techniques to add colour onto paper.

Geography – we learnt about the different weather patterns around the world. We are comparing Sheffield to Estreli.

RE – we are learning about what Muslims think about God.

Mrs Fairfull – fairfullc@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Mrs Blackburn – blackburnv@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Mrs Granger – grangerk@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Miss Clifffen – cliffena@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk